

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Stuart S. Levy on August 12, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

**(I)** With regard to claim 1 (line 15), after the phrase "said elastic moving piece extending along the coupling arm," the following has been entered:

--the elastic moving piece being located in a plane offset from a plane of the coupling arm,--.

**(II)** With regard to claim 8 (line 16), after the phrase "said elastic moving piece extending along the coupling arm," the following has been entered:

--the elastic moving piece being located in a plane offset from a plane of the coupling arm,--.

### ***Examiner's Comment Regarding Proposed Amendment***

The Examiner's proposal of claim language to place the application in immediate condition for allowance was agreed to by Applicant. The proposed claim language defined over the prior application of art (i.e., JP 63-72777(U)) by the distinguishing feature of the claimed elastic moving piece being located in a plane offset from a plane of the coupling arm. JP 63-72777(U) discloses as part of the elastic moving piece, an element (40) that is within the plane of

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the coupling arm (which would also correspond to another portion of (40)). As such, the amended claim language clearly defines over any application of JP 63-72777(U) to such claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William J. Klimowicz whose telephone number is (571) 272-7577. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (7:30AM-6:00PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph H. Feild can be reached on (571) 272-4090. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/William J. Klimowicz/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2627